

# News from the FPPC



California Fair Political Practices Commission  
428 J Street, Suite 620, Sacramento, CA 95814  
[www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov)

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Contact: Tara Stock at (916) 322-7761

## FPPC Enforcement Decisions: November 10, 2011

The following are enforcement decisions approved by the Fair Political Practices Commission at its regular monthly meeting held on Thursday, November 10, 2011. Decisions are listed by category and include a brief summary of each case and the total amount of any administrative fine or fines in each case.

Additional information on each of the enforcement cases below can be found in the November agenda on the FPPC website at [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov). FPPC agendas are distributed and posted on the agency website at least 10 days prior to each monthly meeting.

The web version of the agenda includes links to the stipulations agreed to by the commission and by the individuals and organizations subject to the fines, or the default decisions proposed to the commission. Exhibits in support of the stipulations and proposed default decisions are also available on the website. If you are unable to access the FPPC website, or need further assistance, please call the FPPC communications office at (916) 322-7761.

### Campaign Reporting Violations

**Carmen Avalos, Carmen Avalos for Assembly 2010.** Carmen Avalos was a candidate for election to the 50th Assembly District in 2010, and treasurer for the Carmen Avalos for Assembly 2010 committee. She failed to timely file a semiannual campaign statement for the reporting period of October 18, 2009, through December 31, 2009. **\$200 fine.**

**Carmen Avalos, Avalos for Trustee.** Carmen Avalos was a candidate for election to the Cerritos Community College District Board, and treasurer for the Avalos for Trustee committee. She failed to timely file a semiannual campaign statement for the reporting period of October 18, 2009, through December 31, 2009. **\$200 fine.**

**Robert J. Evans,** an unsuccessful candidate for Attorney General in the November 2, 2010, general election, who raised and spent less than \$1,000 for his campaign, failed to file a short form campaign statement for calendar year 2010 by the March 22, 2010, due date. **\$800 fine.**

**Los Angeles League of Conservation Voters and Moe Stavnezer, Treasurer.** Los Angeles League of Conservation Voters, a county general purpose committee, and the committee's treasurer, Moe Stavnezer, failed to timely file two semi-annual campaign statements, one for the reporting period January 1, 2010, through June 30, 2010, due August 2, 2010, and one for the reporting period July 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010, due January 31, 2011. **\$400 fine.**

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**Mountain View Professional Firefighters Political Action Committee and Melton Wong**, the committee's treasurer, failed to timely file electronic campaign statements for all reporting periods from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2011. **\$400 fine.**

**Blanca E. Rubio**, current Los Angeles County Baldwin Park Unified School District Governing Board Member, failed to timely file the Form 470 campaign statement covering the period January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010, due July 31, 2010, with the County of Los Angeles. **\$200 fine.**

**Women's National Political Caucus San Gabriel Valley, and Debra Hurd, Treasurer**, failed to file a semi-annual campaign statement for the July 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010, reporting period, due January 31, 2011. **\$200 fine.**

### **Conflicts of Interest Violation**

California law states that, absent an exception, a public official may not make, participate in making or in any way attempt to use his or her official position to influence a governmental decision in which he or she knows or has reason to know he or she has a financial interest. The following official used his official position to influence a governmental decision in which he had a financial interest:

**Gregory Fox**, as a member of the Saratoga Cemetery District Board of Trustees, failed to disclose his ownership interest in two undeveloped properties on his annual Statements of Economic Interests ("SEI") for the years 2006, 2007, 2008, and failed to timely disclose his ownership interest in these properties on his 2009 SEI. Further, Mr. Fox participated in and made governmental decisions on three occasions to develop an undeveloped parcel, referred to as the Sister's parcel, owned by the Saratoga Cemetery District, which is located within 500 feet of one of Mr. Fox's undeveloped properties. **\$13,000 fine.**

### **Mass Mailing Violations**

California law requires a candidate or committee that sends over 200 substantially similar pieces of mail in a calendar month to include specific information about the candidate or committee. The following did not include the required information:

**San Bernardino Community College District** sent a newsletter on or about March 15, 2011, at public expense, which featured elected board members. **\$2,000 fine.**

### **Statements of Economic Interests Violations**

California law requires elected officials, certain board members and governmental employees, and consultants employed by governmental entities to complete and file Statements of Economic Interests (SEIs or Form 700s). SEIs serve a dual purpose: they make a filer aware of personal economic interests relative to a governmental decision, and they are an important disclosure document for the public and media. The following individuals failed to file their Statement of Economic Interests forms on time:

**Lee Cherry**, City of Oakland employee, failed to timely file an annual Statement of Economic Interests for the reporting period of January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009, due April 1, 2010. **\$200 fine.**

**Nina Horne**, also known as Leona Horne, a City of Oakland Fund for Children and Youth Commissioner, failed to file an annual Statement of Economic Interests for the reporting period of January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009, due April 1, 2010. **\$200 fine.**

**Gloria Jeffery**, a City of Oakland Central City East Project Area Committee member, failed to file an annual Statement of Economic Interests for the reporting period of January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009, due April 1, 2010. **\$200 fine.**

**Virginia Kiraly**, Commissioner for the State of California Economic Development Commission, failed to timely file an annual Statement of Economic Interests for the reporting period of January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010, due April 1, 2011. **\$200 fine.**

**Emmanuel Martinez**, Council Member for the City of Coachella, failed to timely file an annual Statement of Economic Interests for the reporting period of January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009, due April 1, 2010. **\$200 fine.**

**Veronica Martinez**, City of Oakland Family/Community Services Organizer, Head Start Program, failed to timely file an annual Statement of Economic Interests for the reporting period of January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009, due April 1, 2010. **\$200 fine.**

**Elisa Mazon**, Consultant for the Public Employees' Retirement Board, failed to timely file an annual Statement of Economic Interests for the reporting period of January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010, due April 1, 2011. **\$200 fine.**

**George McDaniel**, City of Oakland Board Member, Workforce Investment Board, failed to timely file an annual Statement of Economic Interests for the reporting period of January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009, due April 1, 2010. **\$200 fine.**

**Ron Owens**, Oakland Measure 'Y' Board Member, failed to timely file an annual Statement of Economic Interests for the reporting period of January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009, due April 1, 2010. **\$200 fine.**

**Stacy Thompson**, Oakland Head Start Board Member, failed to timely file an annual Statement of Economic Interests for the reporting period of January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009, due April 1, 2010. **\$200 fine.**

#### **Re-Hearing**

**Frank Molina and Strategic Solutions Advisors.** Frank Molina, a registered California lobbyist and Strategic Solutions Advisors, a California lobbying firm, failed to timely file quarterly lobbyist and lobbying firm reports from January 1, 2007, through December 31, 2009. **\$30,000 fine.**